

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7011

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the 168th Military Police Battalion of the Tennessee Army National Guard upon its receipt of the Valorous Unit Award.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, many fine and honorable traditions have arisen from the deep wellspring of honor and bravery possessed by Tennesseans, but there is no finer tradition than that which gave Tennessee its nickname; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the "Volunteer State" have, throughout the years, willingly forsaken the comforts and securities of inaction by taking up arms against the enemies of this great nation, risking their lives and leaving their loved ones behind to honorably safeguard the freedom and liberties guaranteed to all citizens of these United States and vanquishing those who threaten our way of life; and

WHEREAS, established in 1887 by an act of the 45th General Assembly, the Tennessee Army National Guard is a dedicated collection of the finest men and women this State has to offer. Always vigilant and prepared for duty, the Tennessee Army National Guard has proven time and again its ability to protect fellow Tennesseans and Americans and those around the world in need of aid; and

WHEREAS, while the heroic deeds of Tennesseans have been extolled throughout the history of our State and nation, thousands of our citizens continue the time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the Tennessee Army National Guard today; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Tennessee Army National Guard selflessly serve with courage and gallantry and deserve to be recognized for heroism in the line of duty and model citizenship in our American society; and

WHEREAS, the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment 168th Military Police Battalion, headquartered in Dyersburg, were recently awarded the Valorous Unit Award by the Department of the Army, an award given in recognition of “extraordinary heroism in military operations against an armed enemy” between May 20, 2003, and January 31, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the members of the 168th Military Police Battalion of the Tennessee Army National Guard have proudly carried forward and enhanced this State’s reputation for bravery and volunteerism throughout their exemplary term of service overseas; and

WHEREAS, these intrepid men and women from Tennessee unselfishly paid the price of freedom for their families, friends, and indeed all Americans as they sacrificed their time, safety, and personal desires; and

WHEREAS, proudly upholding the ideal of the citizen soldier, an essential tradition of American society, these gallant soldiers serve on our behalf, boldly and without hesitation or complaint; and

WHEREAS, their courageous service stands as an enduring example of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, though we cannot adequately express our appreciation to the courageous men and women of the 168th Military Police Battalion of the Tennessee Army National Guard, who worked to preserve the blessed freedom that is inseparable from our American heritage and ideals, it is most appropriate that we should honor them to the full extent of our ability, as they made untold and innumerable sacrifices to preserve the liberties we enjoy today and that our progeny will hopefully continue to cherish for generations to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the members of the 168th Military Police Battalion of the Tennessee Army National Guard upon their receipt of the Valorous Unit Award for

“extraordinary heroism in military operations against an armed enemy” and thank them for their selfless service in defending this State, our nation, and the world as a whole during their recent deployment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.